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LETTER DATED 18 APRIL 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I would like to call the Security Council's attention to our letter of 28 March 1996 (S/1996/223, annex) to the Prosecutor for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, Judge Richard J. Goldstone.

I have received Judge Goldstone's reply, which I enclose (see annex I). I would appeal to the Council to undertake the proper initiatives and request from the Tribunal information regarding the cooperation that the Tribunal has received from relevant countries and authorities. Our formal request in this regard to Judge Cassese has been forwarded and is enclosed (see annex II).

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating the present letter and its annexes as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex I

Letter dated 12 April 1996 from the Prosecutor for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 addressed to the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations

I am most grateful for your remarks in your letter of 28 March 1996. Your support for the Tribunal and the endeavours of my office have played a substantial role in enabling us to have made progress.

With regard to approaches to the Security Council, that is entirely in the hands of the President. It would not be appropriate for the Prosecutor to make any formal approach. In any event I do know that President Cassese shares your views as to engaging the Security Council, and indeed, other appropriate authorities. I can assure you that all of us at the Tribunal are making every endeavour to ensure that the persons we have indicted are arrested and surrendered for trial.

(Signed) Richard J. GOLDSTONE
Prosecutor

Annex II

Letter dated 18 April 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Your commitment to justice and the objectives of the Tribunal is highly appreciated by my country, our people, myself and, mostly tellingly, by the victims' families and the victims who are still alive. I have already forwarded a letter to the Prosecutor, Judge Richard J. Goldstone, asking that his office forward the necessary information and requests to the Security Council regarding the cooperation that the Tribunal has received from relevant countries and authorities. I herewith also enclose Judge Goldstone's most kind answer to my letter. My letter to Judge Goldstone, his response, and my letter to you are all being formally made Security Council documents.

I would hereby ask you to consider our request for the aforementioned information being forwarded to the Council for review and appropriate action. I am certain you fully understand the need to gain the necessary full cooperation with the Tribunal's efforts if it is to live up to the expectations of the victims and the public, which have been shocked by the crimes committed against innocents. Others may have lower expectations of the Tribunal and prefer political expediency over justice, but we do not and are confident in your commitment.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative